

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-11

NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 W

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P 031245Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3781

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 1664

FOLNG NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA AND COLOMBO FM MADRAS

DTD 03 FEB.

QUOTE: MADRAS 0200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN TAMIL NADU

1. ALL FORMER DMK MINISTERS, LED BY FORMER CHIEF MINISTER KARUNANIDHI, VISITED THE ANNA SAMADHI (ANNODORAI'S GRAVE) ON THE MARINA EARLY THIS MORNING AND LAID WREATHS. EIGHT OF THEM, INCLUDING KARUNANIDHI, ARRIVED AT THE SAME TIME IN SEPARATE CARS AND JOINED FORCES AT THE SAMADHI ENTRANCE. TWO FORMER MINISTERS ARRIVED A LITTLE LATER AND FOUR OTHERS HAD COME EARLIER. THERE WERE ELABORATE POLICE PRECAUTIONS IN THE VICINITY, INCLUDING MOUNTED POLICE. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE COMING TO PAY HOMAGE TO ANNADORAI WAS THIN IN THE EARLY HOURS, BUT STARTED PICKING UP AFTER 8 A.M., BUT SO FAR SEEMS MUCH SPARSER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. MOST VISITORS APPEARED TO BE LOWER RANKING PARTY WORKERS AND ORDINARY DMK SYMPATHIZERS. ADMK LEADERS, INCLUDING M.G. RAMACHANDRAN, FULDD NZ BDSLZKD#THE ANNA SAMADHI BY THE END OF THE MORNING.

2. ARRESTS ARE CONTINUING THROUGHOUT THE STATE. OUR DMK SOURCES

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TELL US THIS MORNING THE TOTAL IS BETWEEN 4000 ; ND 4000, BUT

WE HAVE JUST BEEN TOLD BY A RELIABLE POLICE SOURCE THAT THE NUMBER ARRESTED NOW EXCEEDS 6,000. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, POLITICAL LEADERS ARRESTED UNDER MISA AS OF LATE THIS MORNING TOTAL 287, MADE UP OF 170 DMK, 107 DK, AND 10 CPM. HE BROKE DOWN THE TOTAL ARRESTS AS FOLLOWS: DMK 3880; DK 2100; CPM 48, AND CONGRESS (O) 3. THESE FIGURES CLEARLY INCLUDE MANY OF WHAT ARE USUALLY CALLED "ANTISOCIAL ELEMENTS."

3. OUR POLICE SOURCES ALSO TELL US THAT S. KANDAPPAN, MLA CHAIRMAN OF THE TAMIL NADK WATER AND DRAINAGE BOARD WAS ARRESTED AS HE CAME AWAY FROM THE ANNA SAMADHI THIS MORNING, AND THAT RAMA ARANGANNAL, MLA AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD, AND S.S. MARISAMY, MP, DMK LEADER IN THE RAJYA SABHA, HAVE ALSO BEEN ARRESTED THIS MORNING. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL REPORTS THAT MURASOLI MARAN, MP, WAS ALSO SCHEDULED TO BE ARRESTED THIS MORNING, BUT WE HAVE NO POLICE CONFIRMATION OF IT AS OF NOW.

EAVES UNQUOTE  
SAXBE

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED

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